draft treaty differs from the earlier treaty;

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposed Treaty is still under negotiation with the Government of the Russian Federation.

Japanese Pressure for signing Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

1643. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY.
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit the Japanese Foreign Minister had asked the Government of India to sign the Nuclear non-proliferation treaty failing which it would be difficult to Japanese Government to extend economic aid to India; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) During my visit to Japan in January 1992, the Foreign Minister of Japan expressed the hope that India would sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). He never indicated any intention of the Japanese Government to stop economic assistance to India if India did not sign the NPT.

The Japanese Government was informed that India had not signed the NPT because that treaty is discriminatory and had not prevented the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons. It was emphasised that India had scrupulously adhered to its consistent policy of utilisation of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, and that India is not a nuclear-weapon state.

Pakistan Defence Budget

1644. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan defence budget is being strengthened through the help of certain Arab countries if so, the details thereof?

(b) whether it is also a fact that U. S. has stopped sending military hardwares and spares to Pakistan;

(c) whether it is a fact that in view of short supply from U. S. of key components, Pakistan has acquired replacements from other sources; and

(d) what are the implications of Miraj 2000 acquisition by Pakistan *vis-a-vis* Indian Air Force.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Government have no information to this effect so far.

(b) Commercial sales of spare parts and similar military items have been permitted by the US Government. However, US Government military assistance to Pakistan remains suspended.

(c) There have been reports to this effect.

(d) No agreement has so far been concluded in this regard.